

South Dakota LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

News Release

April 22, 2005

RED MEAT PRODUCTION UP FROM LAST YEAR

SIOUX FALLS, April 22, 2005 – Commercial red meat production for South Dakota totaled 85.0 million pounds during March, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Office. This was up 9 percent from one year ago and also up 9 percent from last month. For March, pork production was up, while sheep and lamb production was down from last year.

Commercial hog slaughter for South Dakota totaled 402,500 head during March compared to 366,900 head last year. Average live weight was 263 pounds, which was up 2 pounds from March 2004.

Commercial sheep and lamb slaughter for South Dakota totaled 1,000 head during March compared to 1,100 head last year. Average live weight was 122 pounds, which was up 3 pounds from March 2004.

Commercial slaughter data for beef cattle is not published.

*The complete report can be accessed at www.usda.gov/nass/
or call Carter Anderson or Steve Noyes at
605-323-6500*